GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4663
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2003
PM`S FOREIGN VISITS
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries visited by Prime Minister during the last three years;

(b) the details of the issues discussed and the agreements signed during his visit, country-wise; and

(c) the amount spent on each visit, country-wise during the aforesaid period?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a)&(b) Sir, kindly see the Annexure.

(c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Name of country visited	Details of discussion	Agreements signed during the visit.
Japan(7-11 Dec 2001)	The Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee paid an official visit to Japan from 7-11 December 2001 on the invitation of Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Junichiro Koizumi. The Prime Minister visited Osaka and Tokyo. In Tokyo, the Prime Minister called on the Emperor of Japan, who also hosted lunch in his honour. The Prime Minister held discussions with Prime Minister Koizumi on bilateral, regional and international issues and on strengthening the Global Partnership for the 21st Century that was established when Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori of Japan visited India in August 2000. In both Osaka and Tokyo, the Prime Minister interacted with the business community and Addressed major business meetings. The Prime Minister also met with Members of India-Japan Parliamentary Friendship League. India and Japan have agreed on the importance of strengthening the Global Partnership, and on further developing exchanges in the areas of trade and investment, culture, IT, science & Technology, defence etc.	A joint declaration was issued on 10 December 2001.

Mauritius	PM visited Mauritius in March, 2000 as chief guest at the 32nd anniversary celebrations of Mauritian independence.	NIL
Maldives:	PM had visited the Maldives from September 22-25, 2002. During this visit PM held useful discussions with President Gayoom and other Maldivian dignitaries. These discussions focussed on cooperation in various areas such as public health-care, human resource development, education, tourism and infrastructure developmebnt etc. PM also laid the foundation stone for establishment of the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Studies, a hotel management Training institute to be set up with assistance.	No agreement was signed during the visit.
Nepal:	SAARC Summit from 4-6 Januarry, 2002 followed by Bilateral Official visit	
The Russian Federation	The Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee paid State Visit to the Russian Federation from 4-7 November, 2001.During this visit, PM had a 75-minute tete-a-tete with President Putin followed by dele-gation level talks. PM also had sepaarate meetings with Speaker of the State Duma Mr. Gennady Seleznyev, Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov and Defence Minister Ilya Klebanov accompanied PM In the flight from St. Petersburg to Moscow. During this visit, PM was conferred an Honorary Doctorate by the Moscow State University. PM also visited St. Petersburg where he met Governor of the St. Petersburg Regional Administration Vladimir Yakovlev. At St. Petersburg. PM also inaugurated an exhibition of Indian paintings at the Russian Museum. During the visit, discu-ssions took place on bilateral and international issues of mutual interest. A close proximity of views were expressed on several issues, including terrorism. These were reflected in the documents signed during the visit. Ministry and the Ministry of Science and Technology of India on development of cooperation in the field of emergency prevention and response. Agreements/documents signed At Kempenski Hotel on 5 Nov 2001 included:	A total of 16 bilateral documents were signed during the visit including those between commercial organisations. A joint Statement between India and the Russian Federa-tion and a Joint Statement on strategic issues was issued at Kremlin. Agreements/documents signed in Kremlin on 6 November 2001 included: Moscow Declaration on International Terrorism MOU on the imple-mentation of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Protocol of Coopera-tion between Astrakhan and Gujarat States. Protocol of Cooperation between the cities of Hyderabad and Kazan Memorandum of Intention between the Russian Emergencies

MOU between CII and its Counterpart, Russian Union of Industrialists And Entrepreneurs (Employers) (RUIE)

10 Million dollar credit line agreement between Exim Bank and its Counterpart, Vnesheconombank of Russia.

MOU between the Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Center, Embassy of India,Moscow.

Agreement between the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO) and the Indian Council of World Affairs(ICWA)

MOU between Department of Science and Tech- nology and Russian Aca- demy of Sciences for establishment of Indo- Russian Center for Ayurveda Research at Moscow

MOU between Department of Sciences and Tech- nology and Russian Acade -my of Sciences on the establishment of Indo- Russian Center for Biotechnology in India.

Protocol of intentions between State Bank of India and Central Bank of Russia on the Opening of A Subsidiary Bank, "Commercial Bank of India LLC Company" in Moscow.

Four documents were signed in St Petersburg on 5 November 2001:

MOU between School of International Relations, St. Petersburg State University and JNCC

MOU between Kazan State University and JNCC

MOU between Far Eastern National University, Vladivostok and JNCC

MOU between the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences and JNCC on Project Related Support to Center of Indian Studies of the Institute of Oriental Studies.

UK : 12 October 2002 Bilateral Visit.	Both sides reviewed bila- teral ties and had discussions On regional and Global develop- Ments. UK PM Congratulated PM on the succe- Ssful elections In J&K and Reiterated support for India's permanent membership of UNSC.	No Agreement was signed during the visit.
Denmark: 9 - 11 October 2002 Third India EU Summit and Bilateral visit.	Discussion at the Third Summit under the Danish Presidency focused on review bilateral relations with EU and regional and global issues of mutual interest. Both sides adopted The Joint Statement with an Agenda for Action. PM in his key note address at the Business Summit urged The EU to tackle EU's high agricultural subsides and non-tariff barriers that affect Indo EU trade. discussions at the bilateral level focussed on revitalizing bilateral relationship by ideytifying new areas of cooperation In IT, Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals, Food Processing and Non Conventional Energy.	No Agreement was signed during the visit.
Cyprus: 7-9 October, 2002 For the Bilateral Visit.	Issues of bilateral, regional and international importance were discussed.	Five Agreements were signed in the Fields of Posts & Telecommunications, Health, S&T, IT and Culture.
Switzerland: 16-17 September 2002 Transit at Zurich	No Discussions were held.	No Agreement was signed.
UK: 12 November 2001	Both sides discussed bilateral relations and regional and global	No Agreement was signed during the visit.

Bilateral visit	issues of mutual interest, including combating international terrorism and reform of the UN. There was also discussion on cooperation on WTO issues.	
Germany: 16-19 September 2000 Transit halt at Frankfurt	No Discussions were held	No Agreement was signed during the visit.
Portugal: 27-29 June, 2000 First India-EU Summit and Bilateral visit.	It was the first summit level interaction between India and the EU. India and the EU discussed ways to expand the multifaceted relations. Lisbon Declaration with an Agenda for action was adopted during the summit. At the bilateral level both sides discussed the steps to expand bilateral, political and economic cooperation.	Agreement between India and EU on Financing of Civil Aviation Sector, Agreement on setting up of JWG on IT between India and Portugal and Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement with Portugal.
Italy: 25-27 June, 2000 For the Bilateral visit	Both sides exchanged views on bilateral relations and on regional and international issues of mutual interest. PM urged the Italian Businesses to take advantage of the new opportunities for investment and trade in India.	An Agreement on Cooperation in Tourism
Islamic Republic of Iran (10-13 April 2001)	During the visit, both sides discussed issues relating to cooperation on bilateral, regional and international matters. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the strengthening and deepening of consultations and to enhancing coordination on bilateral -regional and multilateral issues of mutual concern. Prime Minister and President Mohammad Khatami of Iran emphasised the need to enhance trade ties, economic and technical cooperation and cultural contacts. Prime Minister and President Khatami also signed the 'Tehran Declaration' which laid out their vision of cooperation based on shared concerns, common aspiration and shared complementarities for the benefit of the two peoples and of the region and the world at large.	1. Tehran Declaration 2. Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation 3. Agreement on Customs Cooperation. 4. MoU on cooperation in Information technology 5. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Energy 6. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Power (conventional souces) 7. MoU on Technocal Cooperation.

USA: 6-17 September, 2000	The PM's visit was in response to the invitation of U.S. President Clinton. Both the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the expansion of ties between the United States and India to the mutual benefit of both countries as envisaged in the Vision statement signed during President Clinton's visit to India in March, 2000. The visit was a significant step towards broad-ening and deepenging the friendship and cooperation between the two countries and helped expansion and conti-nuation of co-operation in the areas such as trade and commerce, finance and investment, energy and environment, health, science and technology, counter terrorism and UN Peace-keeping.	NIL
USA: November 7-9, 2001	Prime Minister and President Bush reaffirmed their united efforts to fight terrorism and articulated their commitment to complete the process of transformin India-US relatinship. They agreed to explore ways to enhance their cooperation in political and strategic consul-tations, defence, security, combating international terrorism, civilian nuclear and space applications and economic relations for building long term partnership between the two countries.	NIL
USA: 9-17 September, 2001	The principal purpose of the visit was to attend the United Nations General Assembly on the margins of which Prime Minister met with President Bush on 12th September 2002. During the meeting India and USA reaffirmed their commitment to continue the process of qualitatively transforming India-USA relations and emphasized the deepening of the bilateral dialogue and strengthening of the new strategic framework of relations. They also agreed to enhance political and strategic consultations, deepen cooperation in defence, security and combating international terrorism, further develop economic relations, and explore possibilities of expanding cooperation in space, diverse forms of energy, high technology commerce and science.	NIL

Cambodia:	PM visited Cambodia from April 9-11, 2002. Both sides agreed to continue and expand bilateral cooperation in several areas including Information Technology, Agriculture, human resource Development, Culture, Trade and Tourism. India and Cambodia also agreed to explore areas for new initiatives for further strengthening the relations under the auspices of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration and Mekong Ganga Cooperation.	Agreement for Conservation and Restoration Work at Ta Phrom The Air Services Agreement Agreement on Visa Exemption for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports.
Cambodia:	PM visited Cambodia from November 4-6, 2002 and attended the First India-ASEAN Summit on November 5, 2002. During the Summit Meeting, it was announced that India will consider a free trade area with ASEAN in the next ten years and will also support the Initiative for ASEAN Integration Bilateral discussins were held with the Cambodian Prime Minister Mr. Hun Sen. PM handed over to the Cambodian Prime Minister, a gift of 10,000 tonnes of rice for humanitarian purposes. A publication issued by the Archaeological Survey of India on Angkor Vat's restoration and conservation was presented by the PM to the Cambodian Prime Minister. PM and the Queen of Cambodia inaugurated an Exhibition on Indian Textiles and Information Technology	i) Credit Agreement US$ 10 million ii) Trade Agreement iii) MOU between Archaeological Survey of India and the Apsara Authority iv) MOU between IIT, Mumbai and the Institute of Technology of Cambodia.
Lao Peoples Democratic Republic:	PM paid a three-day official Visit to Lao PDR from 6-8 Nov-02 India and Laos agreed to operate various initiatives to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries as well as in the region and sub-region. PM waived the repayment of an earlier US$ 2 million loan to Lao PDR. A gift of parachutes and computers was also handed over to Laotian authorities. Cooperation.	i) Agreement on a credit line for US$ 10 million ii) Agreement on Exemption of Visa requirement for Diplomatic and Official Passport holders. iii) Agreement on Prevention of illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Pschotropic Substances Iv) Agreement on Defence
Republic of Singapore:	PM visited Singapore from April 7-9, 2002. Detailed discussions with Singapore leaders were held on bilateral l regional and international matters focussing mainly on economic, commercial and cultural cooperation.	i) MOU on cooperation in the field of Telecommunications ii) MOU on Loaning of Elevan Indian Artifacts for ten years to the Asian Civilisation Museum
Republic of: Kazakhstan	Hon'ble PM and Kazakh President discussed	1) Joint Working Group for combating inter-

(from June 2 to 5 2002)	various bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.	national terrorism and other types of crimes.

2) Memorandum of Understanding on Military-Technical Cooperation
3) Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of tourism.